(b) The southern States where this practice still prevails have special laws such as Bombay Devedasi Prevention Act, 1934, Madras Devdasis (Prevention of Dedication) Act, 1947 etc. which prohibit Devdasi system in those States. The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, which has been twice amended in 1956 and 1986 to make it more effective and its penal provisions more stringent, is applicable to all the States and Union Territories. The Act also envisages setting up of protective homes, or corrective institutions for the care, protection, treatment, education and rehabilitation of the rescued women and girls. The enforcement of the Act lies with the State Governments.

Eligibility to appear in the entrance examination for Medical and Engineering Institutes

1732. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether science students appearing in Delhi Senior School Certificate Examination in March, 1987, are elibible to sit in entrance examinations to be conducted by AIIMS, IIT and other medical and engineering colleges and institutions in 1987, provided they fulfil other terms and conditions prescribed for the purpose;

(b) whether these students are not allowed to sit in entrance examination being conducted by CBSE, Delhi, on the 3rd May, 1987, for admission to 15 per cent of total intake capacity of AIIMS and other medical colleges in some states;

(c) whether non-eligibility condition is contrary to the directions given by Supreme Court for conducting the examination; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take to rectify the lacuna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

The candidates who are taking up qualifying examination and whose results are not declared may also appear at the All India Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance Examination, 1987 to be conducted by the CBSE, New Delhi. However, these candidates will not be eligible for admiss .v.. um S ETHTE Courses if they do not submit the Marks. Statement of the qualifying examination with the required precentage of marks as prescribed in the Bulletin of Information and the press statement issued by the CBSE, New Delhi,

The AIIMS, New Delhi has been exempted from the purview of All India Entrance Examination as that Institute is already holding their own Entrance Test on all-India basis.

(c) and (d) The Question does not arise.

स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं को सहायता

1733. **श्री मीर्जा इर्शादबेग** क्या **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज्यवार कितनी-कितनी स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं को केन्द्र द्वारा मान्यता तथा सहायता दी गयी है ;

(ख) इन संस्थाओं को प्रति वर्ष कितनी राशि की केन्द्रीय सहायता मिलती है और वे यह सहायता किन नियमों के अन्तर्गत प्राप्त करती हैं तथा इन संस्थाओं से प्रति वर्ष कितने लोग लाभान्वित होते हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इन संस्थाओं को ये अनुदान तीन वर्ष की अवधि के लिये दिये जाते हैं ; और

(घ) क्या इस सम्बंध में नियमों में संशोधन किये जाने के बारे में कोई मांग प्राप्त हुई है ; यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Steps to uplift standard of rural women

1734. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stressed the need for involving rural women in the development proceses of the country;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard to the State Government to uplift the rural women; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take to uplift the standard of rural women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) In so far as Department of Women & Child Development is concerned, guidelines for a new scheme of Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) have been issued. The details are as under:

The objective of this programme is to render support to employment programmes for women in large employment sectors such as Agriculture, Dairying, Small Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Khadi and Village Industries, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Sericulture etc. These projects would provide technical, institutional organisational and social support to women belonging to the poorer economic groups. The thrust of this approach will be to work through the poor and for the poor like the landless labourers, the fisherfolk, the village artisans etc., who would be encouraged to form their own organisations. The role of the voluntary organisations will be that of a catalyst, to help them to analyse their own situation and help to unite and work together.

The project proposals would be formulated by the Corporations, Boards, Non-Governmental Organisations, Universities, Central Social Welfare Board, State Social Welfare Boards, other semi-government agencies funded by Government.

Rehabilitation of T.B. Patients

1735. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it a fact that patients suffering from T.B. and other infectious disease and face rehabilitation problem after treatment;

(b) whether Government are considering a proposal for opening of rehabilitation Centres for those patients who are cured and are unable to support themselves for lack of a livelihood; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Assistance is being provided by the Ministry of Welfare for developing services for the disabled for Rehabilitation, physical, Psychological, Social and economic under the "Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled persons". Cured T.B. patients do not acquire any disability and can engage themselves in the normal activities. However, so far as cured Leprosy patients are concerned there is a scheme under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme for the establishment of Leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Units to provide rehabilitation